

EXHIBIT 17
Excerpts from
Jonathan Pierce
Deposition, Vol. I,
4/26/18

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA

ESTATE OF TASHI S. FARMER a/k/a)
TASHII FARMER a/k/a TASHII)
BROWN, by and through its)
Special Administrator, Elia Del)
Carmen Solano-Patricio; TAMARA)
BAY LEE KUUMEALI' MAKAMAE FARMER)
DUARTE, a minor, individually)
and as Successor-in-Interest,)
by and through her legal)
guardian, Stevandra Lk Kuanoni;)
ELIAS BAY KAIMIPONO DUARTE, a)
minor, individually and as)
Successor-in-Interest, by and)
through his legal guardian,)
Stevandra Lk Kuanoni,)
)
Plaintiffs,)
)
vs.) No. 2:17-cv-01946-
) JCM-PAL
LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE)
DEPARTMENT, a political)
subdivision of the State of)
Nevada; OFFICER KENNETH LOPERA,)
individually and in his)
Official Capacity; and)
Does 1 through 50, inclusive,)
)
Defendants.)
)

DEPOSITION OF JONATHAN JODIE PIERCE

April 26, 2018

Flagstaff, Arizona

By: Michelle K. Seymour, RPR, CSR, CCR
Arizona Certified Reporter #50710

Job: 26055

JONATHAN JODIE PIERCE

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1	Pursuant to Notice and Rules of Civil		
2	Procedure, the deposition of JONATHAN JODIE PIERCE,		
3	called by Plaintiffs, was taken on Thursday,		
4	April 26, 2018, commencing at 2:03 p.m., at		
5	Performance Reporters, 201 East Birch Avenue,		
6	Suite 9, Flagstaff, Arizona, before MICHELLE K.		
7	SEYMOUR, RPR, CSR, an Arizona CCR, Certificate		
8	No. 50710.		
9			
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24	Craig R. Anderson, Esq.		
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	Vegas Metropolitan Police Department		
	(Telephonically)		

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<p>1 what is in the booklet is true and correct. Okay?</p> <p>2 A. Okay.</p> <p>3 Q. And then there will be a stamped envelope,</p> <p>4 and you just put it in there and send it back, I</p> <p>5 guess to me, it will have my address.</p> <p>6 A. Sounds good.</p> <p>7 Q. Now, if you don't understand a question</p> <p>8 that I ask you, or anyone else asks you, please</p> <p>9 don't answer it. Ask me to repeat it or rephrase</p> <p>10 it, or some other way to indicate that it was not</p> <p>11 understood.</p> <p>12 A. Okay.</p> <p>13 Q. And I'll do my best to repeat it or</p> <p>14 rephrase it or do something to make it</p> <p>15 understandable.</p> <p>16 A. Yeah, I can do that.</p> <p>17 Q. Please wait until I finish my question</p> <p>18 before you start your answer. And I'll give you the</p> <p>19 same courtesy; I'll wait until you finish your</p> <p>20 answer before I start the next question. Besides it</p> <p>21 being courteous, it's difficult for the court</p> <p>22 reporter to take down two people who are speaking at</p> <p>23 the same time.</p> <p>24 Do you understand?</p> <p>25 A. I understand.</p>	<p>Page 6</p> <p>1 Q. Have you taken any kind of medication or</p> <p>2 anything that would cause you to have inability to</p> <p>3 recollect or to state your best responses here</p> <p>4 today?</p> <p>5 A. No, I have not.</p> <p>6 Q. I told you about the idea of an estimate.</p> <p>7 While estimates are fine, and welcome, guesses are</p> <p>8 not. And if it is a guess, then you should not do</p> <p>9 so. It's not always clear what the difference is</p> <p>10 between a guess and an estimate, but to use an</p> <p>11 example:</p> <p>12 You can see the length of this table. You</p> <p>13 may not have an exact ability, by your eyes, to</p> <p>14 measure the exact length of the table, but you could</p> <p>15 probably give a reasonable estimate of the length of</p> <p>16 the table. However, if I asked you to estimate the</p> <p>17 length of my dining room table in Irvine,</p> <p>18 California, it would have to be a pure guess because</p> <p>19 you have never been there.</p> <p>20 Do you understand that?</p> <p>21 A. Yes, I understand.</p> <p>22 Q. All right. Mr. Pierce, would you please</p> <p>23 state your full name for the record.</p> <p>24 A. My full name is Jonathan Jodie Pierce.</p> <p>25 Q. Are you currently employed?</p>
<p>1 Q. Okay. I don't expect this to be a very</p> <p>2 lengthy deposition, but if at any time you wish to</p> <p>3 take a break, just indicate that you want to take a</p> <p>4 break and your request will be honored. There's</p> <p>5 water and coffee, and there's a bathroom close by.</p> <p>6 Do you understand that?</p> <p>7 A. I understand that.</p> <p>8 Q. During the course of the deposition, I may</p> <p>9 ask you questions that have to do with distance or</p> <p>10 dates or time, and you may or may not have an exact</p> <p>11 answer to my question but you may have a reasonable</p> <p>12 estimate. If you don't have an exact answer, that's</p> <p>13 fine. I would just like to have your best estimate.</p> <p>14 Do you understand that?</p> <p>15 A. I understand.</p> <p>16 Q. And just as you've been doing very nicely</p> <p>17 up till now, please continue to answer out loud.</p> <p>18 Such common expressions as uh-huh or huh-uh are too</p> <p>19 difficult to interpret. Similarly, nods of the head</p> <p>20 either as attempting to show affirmation or shakes</p> <p>21 of the head suggesting no aren't always able to be</p> <p>22 interpreted. So, again, if you would, just please</p> <p>23 continue to answer out loud as you've been doing</p> <p>24 nicely up till now. Will you do that, please?</p> <p>25 A. Yes, I can do that.</p>	<p>Page 7</p> <p>1 A. No.</p> <p>2 Q. What are you doing right now in terms of --</p> <p>3 are you studying?</p> <p>4 A. I'm studying. I'm at university.</p> <p>5 Q. Is that Northern Arizona University?</p> <p>6 A. It is.</p> <p>7 Q. And what are you studying, please?</p> <p>8 A. Forestry.</p> <p>9 Q. Now, at the time of this incident, which</p> <p>10 was in July of 2015, I believe -- maybe I have it</p> <p>11 wrong. No. I'm sorry. Different case. It was in</p> <p>12 May of 2016. '17. Sorry. You indicated you were</p> <p>13 working for the Forestry Service at that time?</p> <p>14 A. Yes. And I will be returning to that same</p> <p>15 job the Monday school is out.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay. So you'll be working this summer for</p> <p>17 the Forestry Service?</p> <p>18 A. Yes. I've already signed aboard. I'm not</p> <p>19 working yet.</p> <p>20 Q. How long have you worked for the Forestry</p> <p>21 Service?</p> <p>22 A. Last summer was my first season. So I</p> <p>23 continued that until November, starting in May.</p> <p>24 Q. And what do you do for the Forestry</p> <p>25 Service?</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 A. I'm a Forestry technician. 2 Q. What does that do? 3 A. So, my title is Timber Sales Preparation. 4 So, we prepare land and timber to be sold to a 5 private contractor. 6 Q. How far along are you in your college 7 education? 8 A. I will be finishing my junior semester next 9 month. 10 Q. And does that mean you'd have one more 11 year? 12 A. Correct. And I am on track to graduate. 13 Q. And then you will be full-time Forest 14 Service? 15 A. Not immediately. 16 Q. What are you intending to do? 17 A. I'm intending to hike the Pacific Crest 18 Trail, upon graduation, because it's a good 19 interlude between university and a career. 20 Q. I got it. So, but you are ultimately 21 planning to be in the Forestry Service, I take it? 22 A. It's between the Forestry Service and 23 further education. 24 Q. Okay. You might go to graduate school, for 25 example?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 A. I came with a friend from Flagstaff. 2 Q. And at the time of the events in question, 3 your friend, I take it, was with you? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. What is her name? 6 A. Joann Rodriguez. 7 Q. And does she live in Flagstaff? 8 A. She currently does, yes, live in Flagstaff. 9 Q. It sounds like she may be moving or she 10 just moved to Flagstaff? 11 A. No, she lived -- she came here for school. 12 So she lives here now, and she lived here at the 13 time of this case. 14 Q. So, did you come to Las Vegas as a kind of 15 just a diversion, something to do for fun? 16 A. Joann's parents live in Las Vegas, so we 17 were visiting them. And they just happened to live 18 close to the strip. 19 Q. Okay. So you had already seen her parents, 20 I guess, before this events in question occurred? 21 A. Correct. We were staying with them. 22 Q. Did they like you? 23 A. Yeah, they liked me okay. They're very 24 nice. 25 Q. Okay. So, at a certain time of night you</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 A. In California, yes. 2 Q. Do you have an intended field, possible? 3 A. Forestry. 4 Q. Same thing? 5 A. Same thing. 6 Q. What's a good school in California for 7 Forestry? 8 A. Cal Poly Slo or Humboldt. But probably 9 Slo. It's closer to -- 10 Q. Slo is San Luis Obispo? 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. Thank you. 13 Let me take you back in time to June of 14 2000- -- May of 2017. You were, on that evening, 15 located in Las Vegas, Nevada; correct? 16 A. Correct. 17 Q. And when did you get to Las Vegas, before 18 that evening? 19 A. I'm not sure. I would have to give an 20 estimate. But it had been a few days. 21 Q. And as I understand it, had you come from 22 Flagstaff to Las Vegas? 23 A. Correct. 24 Q. And did you come with a friend, or you met 25 a friend there?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 drove near the Venetian and you saw something going 2 on? 3 A. Correct. 4 Q. So, tell me -- I've got a statement by you 5 that you prepared for the police. And there's also 6 some wording in the arrest record that refers to a 7 statement that you made. 8 Why don't we look at the arrest record 9 first. Take a look at page 2 of 8. 10 A. 2 of 8, yes. 11 Q. At the top of the page, the first paragraph 12 says: 13 "During the walkthrough, which was started 14 at the point when he exited the hotel, Officer 15 Lopera stated he had observed a security officer and 16 asked if the officer if he had seen anyone running. 17 The security officer pointed to the south and 18 Officer Lopera observed Farmer running south in the 19 middle of the street. Farmer approached a white 20 truck that was traveling west." 21 Now, do I understand correctly that that 22 was your truck? 23 A. I own a white truck. I don't know if I was 24 traveling west. But yes, that was me. 25 Q. Then, it says:</p>

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<p>1 "Farmer attempted to open the tailgate of 2 the truck and Officer Lopera believed that Farmer 3 was going to attempt to take the vehicle by force. 4 Officer Lopera deployed and discharged the ECD" -- 5 that's a Taser -- "resulting in Farmer falling to 6 the ground. The walkthrough was then stopped as 7 advised by LVPPA attorney John Aldrich." 8 That's the attorney for the Police 9 Department in that situation. 10 Now, as I understand from your statement, 11 you never saw Mr. Farmer attempt to get in your 12 vehicle? 13 A. That is correct. I never felt like he was 14 trying to open the tailgate, that's for sure. 15 Q. You never felt he was trying to open the 16 door of your vehicle? 17 A. Correct. 18 Q. So the statement that he was attempting to 19 open the tailgate of the truck is incorrect? 20 A. In my opinion, yes, that would have been 21 incorrect. 22 Q. Next paragraph: 23 "After viewing surveillance footage from 24 the Venetian Hotel, detectives were able to retrieve 25 the numbers and letters of the license plate for the</p>	<p>Page 14 1 Officer Lopera and Farmer moved away from blank's 2 truck and began to drive away." 3 Is that essentially accurate? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Now, the next paragraph says: 6 "As blank drove away, he continued to watch 7 Officer Lopera and Farmer in his mirror. Farmer was 8 on the ground and Officer Lopera 'mounted' Farmer 9 and aggressively" -- 10 I think that means struck. It says 11 "stuck" -- 12 -- "struck Farmer in the face. Prior to 13 pulling into the garage, blank saw that an officer 14 had Farmer in a rear naked choke. Blank was unsure 15 if Officer Lopera was the officer who was applying 16 the rear naked choke but he believed it was. Blank 17 stated Farmer did not attempt to open the tailgate 18 of his truck or get into the truck bed. Blank also 19 stated Farmer did not attempt to open his driver's 20 door, however blank said Farmer's erratic behavior 21 made him nervous so he locked the doors prior to 22 observing Farmer being tased by Officer Lopera." 23 Is that correct? 24 A. That is. 25 MR. MCNUTT: Object to the form.</p>
<p>Page 15 1 white truck which Farmer approached. An interview 2 was conducted with the registered owner of the 3 vehicle. The following is a summary of the 4 interview and is not verbatim." 5 It blanks out your name, I think -- "was 6 stopped in traffic as he approached the parking 7 garage to the Venetian. His friend who was in the 8 passenger seat and drew attention to an officer 9 running alongside (sic) his truck on the rear 10 passenger side. Then noticed a black male, Farmer, 11 near the rear driver's side of his truck who blank 12 believed Officer Lopera was chasing." 13 Now, is that you that they're referring to 14 in that paragraph? 15 A. The driver, yes. 16 Q. Okay. And then the friend is your friend, 17 Joann Rodriguez, who was in the passenger's seat? 18 A. Correct. 19 Q. Then it says: 20 "Officer Lopera told Farmer to 'Stop' and 21 'I'm going to tase you.' Blank saw Officer Lopera 22 tase Farmer, who fell near the rear tire of blank's 23 truck. Blank saw and heard Officer Lopera tase 24 Farmer several times. During this time, Farmer was 25 not complying and appeared to be trying to get away.</p>	<p>Page 17 1 There may come a time when I make an 2 objection. Just let me make it for the record and 3 then you're free to answer. 4 THE WITNESS: Okay. 5 BY MR. SAYRE: 6 Q. Now, if I understand the sequence, you 7 actually saw the officer -- you didn't know his 8 name, I suppose, at that time -- tasing Mr. Farmer, 9 correct? That was the first thing you saw 10 happening? 11 A. First I saw the officer chasing Mr. -- 12 yeah. 13 Q. Right. Fair enough. And then the first 14 time there was an interaction, you saw the officer 15 tasing Mr. Farmer? 16 A. Correct. 17 Q. Did you note how many times that he tased 18 him? Were you able to determine that? 19 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form. 20 THE WITNESS: At the time, maybe. Now 21 I would give you an estimate. 22 BY MR. SAYRE: 23 Q. What is your estimate now? 24 A. It would be between five and seven. 25 Q. How did you develop that estimate, if you</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 know it now and you didn't know it at the time?</p> <p>2 Let me say a better question.</p> <p>3 Have you looked at the video on YouTube</p> <p>4 that shows Mr. Farmer and Officer Lopera involved?</p> <p>5 A. Yeah, I've seen a few different videos.</p> <p>6 Q. There's a video from the officer's camera.</p> <p>7 A. Only.</p> <p>8 Q. And then there's a second video that's from</p> <p>9 the Venetian's security cameras which show the</p> <p>10 participants further away.</p> <p>11 Have you seen both of those?</p> <p>12 A. I've seen more than one, and I've seen</p> <p>13 videos from the perspective of the officer's body</p> <p>14 camera and the Venetian's security cameras.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. Your estimate of five to seven, does</p> <p>16 that come from looking at the videos?</p> <p>17 A. No, that comes from hearing the</p> <p>18 discharging, when I was in the truck on the night of</p> <p>19 the event.</p> <p>20 Q. All right. Then you indicate that you saw</p> <p>21 Officer Lopera mount Mr. Farmer and aggressively</p> <p>22 struck Farmer in the face.</p> <p>23 What do you mean by "mount" him?</p> <p>24 A. As I was driving away is when I saw that.</p> <p>25 Mr. Farmer was on the ground. Officer Lopera was on</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form.</p> <p>2 THE WITNESS: From my experience, it's</p> <p>3 a very specific chokehold in which one person is</p> <p>4 behind the other and they bring their arm around and</p> <p>5 put the elbow under the chin and have complete</p> <p>6 control of the individual getting choked.</p> <p>7 BY MR. SAYRE:</p> <p>8 Q. Now, how do you know about rear naked</p> <p>9 chokes?</p> <p>10 A. I've been practicing jiu-jitsu for three</p> <p>11 years in June. So, five days a week, very</p> <p>12 regularly. It's something that I see and do five</p> <p>13 days a week.</p> <p>14 Q. Were you trained in applying a rear naked</p> <p>15 choke?</p> <p>16 A. In jiu-jitsu, yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Do you use a rear naked choke in the</p> <p>18 jiu-jitsu sort of combat that is part of, I guess,</p> <p>19 jiu-jitsu performance?</p> <p>20 A. Correct; very regularly.</p> <p>21 Q. And is that -- is it your understanding</p> <p>22 that it is not an air choke, that you don't put</p> <p>23 pressure on the trachea, in front of the neck?</p> <p>24 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form.</p> <p>25 Leading.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 top of him, holding him down and striking him in the</p> <p>2 face.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. When you say "on top of him," was</p> <p>4 there some reason you used the word "mount"?</p> <p>5 A. At the time, I believed he would have had</p> <p>6 his leg -- he would have been straddling, for lack</p> <p>7 of a better word, Mr. Farmer.</p> <p>8 Q. Straddling and facing him face to face, or</p> <p>9 straddling him from the rear, or if either?</p> <p>10 A. At that time, I believe more straddling him</p> <p>11 on his side. But I was driving away and looking in</p> <p>12 a mirror, so --</p> <p>13 Q. Now, could you estimate how many times that</p> <p>14 you saw him strike Mr. Farmer in the face?</p> <p>15 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form.</p> <p>16 THE WITNESS: No, I believe, at this</p> <p>17 point, I could not do that.</p> <p>18 BY MR. SAYRE:</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. Was it more than once?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. Now, you use the word in your interview</p> <p>22 "rear naked choke."</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. What is a rear naked choke, from your</p> <p>25 experience?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 THE WITNESS: If you properly apply</p> <p>2 the choke, it's a blood choke, because the pressure</p> <p>3 is on the arteries.</p> <p>4 BY MR. SAYRE:</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. In your experience, how long does it</p> <p>6 take for a person to go unconscious from the</p> <p>7 application of a rear naked choke?</p> <p>8 A. If it's properly applied, it can be five to</p> <p>9 ten seconds.</p> <p>10 Q. Now, you were looking back towards the</p> <p>11 officer and Mr. Farmer when you saw the chokehold</p> <p>12 applied?</p> <p>13 A. Correct, in my mirror.</p> <p>14 Q. And was it, in your estimation and from</p> <p>15 your experience, in fact, a rear naked choke?</p> <p>16 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form.</p> <p>17 THE WITNESS: I believe it was, yes.</p> <p>18 BY MR. SAYRE:</p> <p>19 Q. All right. Now, did you become concerned</p> <p>20 at all as you were watching this choke applied that</p> <p>21 it was being applied too long?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Excessively?</p> <p>24 A. Yes. I remember mentioning to Joann, the</p> <p>25 passenger, that this is too long. I even slowed</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 down and was watching for a while, believing if this 2 choke is "in," or applied correctly, it's far too 3 long.</p> <p>4 Q. And did you stop for a while to observe 5 that, or were you driving as you observed it?</p> <p>6 A. A little bit of both. Stop and go. My 7 passenger, Joann, was very upset, so eventually 8 she -- we left. But yes, I did stop.</p> <p>9 Q. All right. From the time that you first 10 saw the choke around Mr. Farmer's neck, until you 11 left and were no longer able to see what was going 12 on with Mr. Farmer, about what period of time 13 transpired?</p> <p>14 A. The question was, from the time I saw the 15 choke until I left, how long was that?</p> <p>16 Q. Yes, sir.</p> <p>17 A. An estimate would be 30 to 45 seconds.</p> <p>18 Q. And it was your opinion, based upon your 19 knowledge, training and experience in this area, 20 that that was an excessive length of time?</p> <p>21 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form.</p> <p>22 THE WITNESS: Far too long, yes.</p> <p>23 BY MR. SAYRE:</p> <p>24 Q. I'm going to then turn to your statement. 25 This statement was taken by an Officer</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 exhibit?</p> <p>2 MR. SAYRE: No, but I will. Thank you 3 for reminding me.</p> <p>4 I'll mark the arrest report as Exhibit 1 5 for identification, and I'll mark this Exhibit 2 for 6 identification.</p> <p>7 (Exhibit Nos. 1 and 2 marked for 8 Identification.)</p> <p>9 BY MR. SAYRE:</p> <p>10 Q. So, looking at 1702. There's a question by 11 Officer Penny:</p> <p>12 "Okay, um, and then while he was, like, you 13 know, towards the back of your truck, did you ever 14 see him try to get into the bed of your truck or -- 15 or a -- anything?"</p> <p>16 JP, which would be you, I assume:</p> <p>17 "No, uh, no, I never felt like he tried to 18 get into the bed."</p> <p>19 That is correct?</p> <p>20 A. That is correct.</p> <p>21 Q. Then, on 1704, you stated, at the bottom of 22 the page:</p> <p>23 "I believe that once he touched him there's 24 no more tasing."</p> <p>25 By that you mean once the officer touched</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 Penny. Did you know his name at the time of the 2 interview?</p> <p>3 A. He gave it to me at the very start of the 4 interview.</p> <p>5 Q. And he had actually spoken to you before 6 this recorded interview; is that true?</p> <p>7 A. I'm not -- I believe he did, so that we 8 could set a time to take an interview, yes.</p> <p>9 Q. Sure. Now, this, was this interview 10 conducted by phone?</p> <p>11 A. Correct. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. And he told you that it was recorded?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. And you told him, if I understand 15 correctly, that you observed the officer, you 16 weren't sure what the name of the officer was, but 17 you observed the officer applying a rear naked 18 choke?</p> <p>19 A. Yes, I told Officer Penny that.</p> <p>20 Q. Basically, what you have told us today is 21 what you told Officer Penny?</p> <p>22 A. Correct.</p> <p>23 Q. Page 1702. If you look at the lower 24 right-hand corner.</p> <p>25 MR. MCNUTT: Did we mark that as an</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 Mr. Farmer?</p> <p>2 A. Correct. Once there was physical contact 3 between the two, outside of the Taser contact.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. Next page, please, 1705. At the top 5 of the page:</p> <p>6 "BP: Okay. And then you said as you were 7 driving away, um, 'cause you felt it was okay to do 8 so once they were away from your truck, um, you were 9 still watching in your mirror and you saw the 10 officer standing, like, above the -- the subject 11 who -- he was on the ground. And you said you saw 12 the officer start to -- to -- to punch him."</p> <p>13 Is that correct?</p> <p>14 A. Yeah. Correct.</p> <p>15 Q. And you correct him, and you said:</p> <p>16 "He wasn't standing. He was mounted on top 17 of him."</p> <p>18 That's the next answer that follows?</p> <p>19 A. Correct.</p> <p>20 Q. You've already told us what you mean by 21 "mounted." And you said you thought it was a closed 22 fist he was using to strike him. Is that correct?</p> <p>23 A. I believe -- yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Down about two-thirds down, you have an 25 answer: "I think it was closed fist."</p>

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<p>1 A. Correct.</p> <p>2 Q. And you said: "I remember thinking it was</p> <p>3 violent."</p> <p>4 That's the next answer down.</p> <p>5 A. I did say that.</p> <p>6 Q. You never saw Mr. Farmer attempting to</p> <p>7 strike or kick Officer Lopera?</p> <p>8 A. Correct.</p> <p>9 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form.</p> <p>10 THE WITNESS: Correct.</p> <p>11 BY MR. SAYRE:</p> <p>12 Q. And then, on 1706, right in the middle of</p> <p>13 the page, BP says:</p> <p>14 "As they're pulling -- pulling up, um,</p> <p>15 prior to you going into the garage you see what</p> <p>16 appears to be three other officers that are standing</p> <p>17 above, um, the subject. And then there's an officer</p> <p>18 on the ground, uh, doing, uh, rear naked choke."</p> <p>19 And your answer:</p> <p>20 "Yes, at this point I missed -- yeah, at</p> <p>21 this point they are -- the suspect is on his</p> <p>22 probably right side and the officer's also on his</p> <p>23 side mirroring him, uh, you know, matching him chest</p> <p>24 to back with a choke put in."</p> <p>25 That's what you saw at the time?</p>	<p>1 A. Correct.</p> <p>2 Q. Down at about 50 percent down the page, BP</p> <p>3 asks:</p> <p>4 "Okay, so with your experience in -- in,</p> <p>5 uh, jiu-jitsu, um, you know different fighting</p> <p>6 techniques. You can identify what would be, you</p> <p>7 know, a rear naked choke, the effects of it, how</p> <p>8 long it would take, and, you know, the adverse</p> <p>9 effects of it?"</p> <p>10 And your answer is:</p> <p>11 "Yeah, but now from the angle -- from the</p> <p>12 distance I was at at this point I couldn't -- I felt</p> <p>13 like his elbow was under the chin which is how you</p> <p>14 apply that. I felt like it was but at that distance</p> <p>15 in the mirror, you know, I can't be positive. Um,</p> <p>16 if that was the case then yeah, I know -- I remember</p> <p>17 thinking that night this is -- this is -- that is</p> <p>18 too -- this is too long."</p> <p>19 A. Correct.</p> <p>20 Q. And you say, the end of the page:</p> <p>21 "You can't choke someone that long."</p> <p>22 A. Correct.</p> <p>23 Q. Why is that?</p> <p>24 A. Because they would pass out. And if you</p> <p>25 keep choking them, they will die.</p>
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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 Q. And then he asked you: 2 "Okay, and then, uh, did you see him with 3 any weapons at all?" 4 And your answer: 5 "No -- no, I didn't see anything on him." 6 A. Also correct. 7 Q. "Or with anything, no." 8 Correct? 9 A. Correct. No weapons. 10 Q. Have you and -- may I call her your 11 girlfriend, Joann? 12 A. That would be appropriate. 13 Q. Okay. Have you and she talked about what 14 happened? After it happened, did you talk together? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. And you discussed your observations and she 17 gave you her observations? 18 A. Correct. 19 Q. Do you recall her saying anything different 20 than you thought you saw? 21 A. No. 22 Q. I have nothing further. Thank you. And 23 these gentlemen will have some questions. 24 A. Okay. 25 MR. MCNUTT: Craig, do you want to go,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 A. I am not sure. The court, I want to say. 2 I'm not sure. 3 Q. For what purpose did you go to Las Vegas? 4 A. To provide a witness -- or to provide a 5 deposition in front of a grand jury. 6 Q. Before your testimony today, or, excuse me, 7 your deposition today, what did you do to prepare 8 for today's deposition? 9 A. For today's deposition, I did not prepare, 10 because I was not aware of the deposition was 11 happening. 12 Q. That was the call that Mr. Sayre made to 13 you? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. But since the time of the accident, how 16 many times would you say you've watched the videos 17 online? 18 A. An estimate would be about seven to ten. 19 Q. When was the last time you watched the 20 video? 21 A. The last time I watched the video was prior 22 to going to Las Vegas to appear in front of the 23 Grand Jury. And I believe that was during spring 24 break. So maybe five or six weeks ago. 25 Q. Okay. Mr. Sayre, during the discussion</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 or do you want me to start? 2 MR. ANDERSON: You can go ahead, Dan. 3 I'll go after you. 4 5 EXAMINATION 6 BY MR. MCNUTT: 7 Q. Mr. Pierce, I'm Dan McNutt. I represent 8 Officer Lopera. Thanks for coming down here today. 9 Appreciate your time. I've got a couple of 10 questions. I'll try to be as expeditious as 11 Mr. Sayre. 12 Before we got started today, Mr. Sayre 13 handed you your witness fee check and said, I wish 14 it could be bigger but this is what the rules 15 require. Something like that. Do you remember 16 that? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. And you made the comment that the one you 19 got when you went to Las Vegas was much larger than 20 you expected. 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. What check was that? 23 A. That was the witness fee check and the gas 24 to get out there. 25 Q. And who provided that to you?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 about mailing you the Notice of Deposition and 2 things like that, there was also some comments off 3 the record. I think he said he mailed you the 4 witness statement that we looked at here as Exhibit 5 2. Is that right? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. Did you read this before today's 8 deposition? 9 A. I read it when he sent it to me, which was 10 a while ago. I did not read it close to today. But 11 yes, I have read it before. 12 Q. How many times have you spoken to Mr. Sayre 13 or anyone from his office? 14 A. I've spoken to Mr. Sayre maybe two or three 15 times, trying to set a date in order to do this 16 deposition. 17 Q. Did you discuss the testimony he was going 18 to ask you to give today? 19 A. No. 20 Q. Did you discuss any aspect of the -- any of 21 the questions that we discussed today? 22 A. No. 23 Q. Did you talk to anybody else from 24 Mr. Sayre's office, other than him? 25 A. Not about the deposition.</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 Q. So is that a yes?</p> <p>2 A. I talked to maybe a secretary about getting 3 ahold of Mr. Sayre.</p> <p>4 Q. Just scheduling?</p> <p>5 A. Yeah. Getting her transferring me to him.</p> <p>6 Q. Things of that nature?</p> <p>7 A. Yeah.</p> <p>8 Q. Have you been asked to come to trial in 9 this matter?</p> <p>10 A. To come to trial, no. The Grand Jury and 11 this deposition.</p> <p>12 Q. This deposition is a different case than 13 the Grand Jury.</p> <p>14 A. Okay. For this --</p> <p>15 Q. Mr. Sayre is not -- same subject matter.</p> <p>16 A. Yes, I understand.</p> <p>17 Q. But in this case, Mr. Sayre, let's just 18 make or anyone from his office asked you to come to 19 trial if this case goes to trial?</p> <p>20 A. I'm not sure.</p> <p>21 Q. Meaning would you come to Las Vegas to give 22 testimony?</p> <p>23 A. I'm not sure if I've been asked to do that.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. Fair enough.</p> <p>25 So, let's -- during the testimony that you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 appear closer or further away?</p> <p>2 A. I believe they appear further away than 3 they are. It says it in the mirror. I'm not sure.</p> <p>4 Q. I think the mirrors usually say that 5 objects appear closer than they actually are.</p> <p>6 A. Okay.</p> <p>7 Q. Things look -- I may have said that 8 incorrectly. Strike that.</p> <p>9 Things look -- is it fair to say things 10 look further away in the mirror?</p> <p>11 A. I'm not sure if it's fair to say that. I 12 know they look one way or the other, though, closer 13 or further.</p> <p>14 Q. Do you wear any glasses?</p> <p>15 A. No.</p> <p>16 Q. Ever, I mean.</p> <p>17 A. No, I've never had to have corrective 18 anything.</p> <p>19 Q. No contacts?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. You were in Las Vegas visiting Joann's 22 parents?</p> <p>23 A. Correct.</p> <p>24 Q. It was a recreational trip?</p> <p>25 A. Correct.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 gave here earlier, you referenced -- and you held 2 out your hand, pointing at what I would -- your 3 driver's side mirror. Is it correct that it's your 4 driver's side mirror on your Toyota Tacoma pickup 5 truck that you witnessed these events, through which 6 you witnessed these events?</p> <p>7 A. Correct.</p> <p>8 Q. Did you ever look in the windshield 9 rearview mirror, or was it strictly out of the 10 side-view mirror?</p> <p>11 A. I'm sure I did glance at it in the moment, 12 but the moment was very hectic with what was 13 happening behind me, with what was happening with my 14 passenger, Joann. I primarily watched it in the 15 driver's side mirror to my left.</p> <p>16 Q. Thank you. Do you have -- how long have 17 you had that truck?</p> <p>18 A. An estimate, maybe six years, seven years.</p> <p>19 Q. So you're pretty familiar with the truck?</p> <p>20 A. Familiar with the truck.</p> <p>21 Q. How large is that mirror?</p> <p>22 A. How large is that mirror. An estimate 23 would be six inches wide, five inches, four inches 24 tall.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. Do you know if objects in the mirror</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 Q. What had you been doing that night, the 2 night of the events that we're discussing, what were 3 you doing prior to these events? Where were you 4 coming from? Where were you going to?</p> <p>5 A. We were coming from Joann's parent house. 6 I remember it. We were waiting for Joann to get 7 ready for about four hours. We were going to a 8 piano bar. That's why we were at the Venetian. 9 Joann took a very long time getting ready, so I was 10 waiting in her house for her to get ready.</p> <p>11 Q. And so, did you have anything to drink 12 prior to going out?</p> <p>13 A. No. I didn't have anything to drink after 14 going out. While out or after or before.</p> <p>15 Q. Is that because -- do you drink at all?</p> <p>16 A. I do drink.</p> <p>17 Q. But you just weren't drinking that night?</p> <p>18 A. Correct. Joann does not drink, so --</p> <p>19 Q. And you were -- and so this was -- where -- 20 was the piano bar at the Venetian?</p> <p>21 A. No, it was somewhere else.</p> <p>22 Q. What were you doing at the Venetian?</p> <p>23 A. The Venetian had free parking at the time.</p> <p>24 Q. Gotcha. So you were going to park in 25 self-parking at the Venetian?</p>

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1	A. Correct.	1 guess, but no.
2	Q. Where was the piano bar?	2 Q. I don't want you to guess, but I want to
3	A. I'm not sure. I don't know.	3 know what you understand in the context of this
4	Q. How many times have you been to Las Vegas?	4 case. What is a lateral -- or may I say -- LVNR?
5	A. An estimate, 15.	5 A. Since what I believe I saw was a rear naked
6	Q. So you're familiar with the town,	6 choke, and that is what we've been talking about,
7	generally?	7 that would be my guess of what that is.
8	A. Yeah. I don't go to the strip every time	8 Q. Do you believe -- I'm sorry.
9	I'm there. In fact, now that I go with Joann, I	9 A. Sorry.
10	rarely go to the strip.	10 Q. No, no, I didn't mean to cut you off.
11	Q. Have you had contact with anybody else	11 A. That would be a complete guess though.
12	in -- not talking about anything related to the	12 Q. Do you believe there is a difference
13	Grand Jury, but have any family members or anybody	13 between a rear naked choke and a lateral vascular
14	else approached you to discuss this case, this case	14 neck restraint?
15	being the civil case that Fred noticed you?	15 A. If someone told me and showed me what that
16	A. My family members?	16 was, I could answer that question.
17	Q. No, no. Any family members from the	17 Q. But that's not the question. So, do you,
18	plaintiff.	18 sitting here today, know if there is a difference
19	A. No.	19 between those two chokeholds?
20	Q. Who have you spoken to about the testimony	20 A. Do I know if there is a difference? No, I
21	you're giving here today?	21 don't, because I don't know what that chokehold is.
22	A. Mr. Sayre. And Joann, obviously, knows I'm	22 Q. Thank you.
23	here.	23 So, if I remember your testimony correct,
24	Q. Let's talk about your jiu-jitsu. There	24 and from both your prior recorded statement as well
25	is -- is there a belt rating system for proficiency	25 as today, the events, when they first took place,
	Page 39	Page 41
1	in jiu-jitsu?	1 were pretty much right next to your truck. Is that
2	A. Correct.	2 correct?
3	Q. Is it Brazilian jiu-jitsu?	3 A. Initially, yes, very close.
4	A. Correct.	4 Q. So, and then, at some point in here, you
5	Q. What degree or belt are you?	5 mentioned that you started driving away when you
6	A. Purple, out of a white, blue, purple,	6 thought it was safe to do so. Is that right?
7	brown, black, in ascending order.	7 A. Correct.
8	Q. So white being the entry level, black being	8 Q. Did you hear Officer Lopera say anything
9	expert?	9 audibly to Mr. Farmer?
10	A. Yes.	10 A. Throughout the extent of the whole thing?
11	Q. For lack of a better term.	11 Q. Yes. From the beginning, did you hear, you
12	A. Yes.	12 know, anything happen?
13	Q. And you said you're purple?	13 A. Yes. Officer Lopera initially was telling
14	A. Yes.	14 him to stop and was telling him he would tase him.
15	Q. You've been doing it three years, several	15 And then did tase him. And throughout the events,
16	times a week?	16 was saying things to the effect of "Stop" and --
17	A. Yes. At the time of the event, I was a	17 Q. So when Officer Lopera first said to
18	blue belt, if that matters.	18 Mr. Farmer to stop, did Mr. Farmer comply?
19	Q. Fair enough. In Brazilian jiu-jitsu, is	19 A. No.
20	there a chokehold referred to as the lateral	20 Q. At any point -- well, excuse me. When
21	vascular neck restraint?	21 Mr. Farmer said, "Stop, or I'll tase you" --
22	A. No.	22 MR. SAYRE: You mean Lopera. You said
23	Q. Do you know what a lateral vascular neck	23 "Mr. Farmer."
24	restraint is?	24 BY MR. MCNUTT:
25	A. In the context of this case, I would make a	25 Q. Yes. Thank you.

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 When Officer Lopera said, "Stop, or I'll 2 tase you," did Mr. Farmer comply? 3 A. No. 4 Q. At any point, did Mr. Farmer comply with 5 the verbal directions Officer Lopera was giving? 6 A. No, I don't believe so. 7 Q. Was Mr. Farmer resisting Officer Lopera? 8 A. To the extent that he was not letting 9 Officer Lopera hold him down or stopping, yes, he 10 did. 11 Q. At what point -- what was happening between 12 Officer Lopera and Mr. Farmer when you started to 13 drive away? 14 A. I believe at that point Lopera had made 15 physical contact, where his hands were touching him. 16 But I'm not quite clear on that. 17 Q. Can you estimate -- 18 A. I'm not clear. 19 Q. Can you estimate how far away your truck 20 was from Mr. Farmer and Officer Lopera when Officer 21 Lopera went and became in physical contact with 22 Mr. Farmer? 23 A. So, initially, when Officer Lopera tased 24 him, I thought Mr. Farmer had fallen under my truck. 25 Which is why I didn't drive away. When I drove</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 girlfriend or talk to your girlfriend; correct? 2 A. Correct. 3 Q. You were driving forward, and when 4 Mr. Farmer and Officer Lopera are in physical 5 contact, you think it starts at 40 feet. And where 6 are you when Officer Lopera puts a chokehold of some 7 sort on Mr. Farmer? 8 A. I understand the question. That would be a 9 guess at this point. It could have started at 40 10 feet, but would have progressively gotten further. 11 That would be a guess though. 12 Q. Have you reviewed anyone else's testimony 13 in this case? 14 A. I don't believe so. I don't know where I 15 would find that. 16 Q. So, as you might have surmised from the 17 questions, there is a difference between a rear 18 naked choke and a lateral vascular neck restraint. 19 Do you understand that, sitting here now? 20 MR. SAYRE: Well, objection as to 21 form. You're telling him that that's so. 22 MR. MCNUTT: I am telling you that. 23 MR. SAYRE: If he can understand your 24 words. 25 THE WITNESS: Someone would have to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 away, they were further away, and I could tell that. 2 And I believe they were -- there was physical 3 contact at that point. And I drove away. Joann was 4 upset, so I was not looking back for a while. When 5 I looked back for the first time after getting away 6 from them, an estimate would be 40 feet. That's an 7 estimate. 8 Q. And so your estimate is that you're 40 feet 9 away, and what is happening between Mr. Farmer and 10 Mr. Lopera at that point? 11 A. At this point, I believe the first time I 12 looked back after driving away, Officer Lopera was 13 striking him. I believe that was my first image 14 upon leaving, after looking back. 15 Q. How far away were you when Officer Lopera 16 applied the chokehold? 17 A. Again, it would be an estimate. And I was 18 looking back, trying to calm her and looking back 19 and trying to calm her, stop-go, stop-go. So that 20 could have started at 40 feet, but then would have 21 progressively gotten further, until out of view. So 22 maybe 40 feet to -- yeah, it would be a guess at 23 this point. I'd have to go back and look. 24 Q. So your attention is going from your left 25 driver's mirror over to trying to calm down your</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 show me that choke. There are different names, 2 sure, I get that. But things can be called 3 different names. I don't know what that choke is. 4 MR. MCNUTT: Fair enough. 5 THE WITNESS: So I do not know if 6 there's a difference. 7 BY MR. MCNUTT: 8 Q. I will represent to you that in this case 9 one of the issues is whether the choke that was 10 applied was a lateral vascular neck restraint, which 11 is a neck chokehold, or a rear naked choke. I will 12 represent to you -- and I don't think Mr. Sayre will 13 dispute -- that they are two distinct techniques. 14 A. Okay. 15 MR. SAYRE: Well, I do dispute that. 16 One is -- they are different, but I don't think 17 distinct. They both are blood chokes. They're not 18 distinct. One cuts off 80 to 85 percent of the 19 blood to the brain, the other cuts off a hundred 20 percent of the blood supply to the brain. 21 MR. MCNUTT: But they are distinct. 22 Or different. 23 MR. SAYRE: Different. I would agree 24 they're different. 25 BY MR. MCNUTT:</p>

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<p>1 Q. In any event, with that muddled 2 explanation, so you don't have any idea whether the 3 choke that Officer Lopera employed was a lateral 4 vascular neck restraint or a rear naked choke. 5 Isn't that right?</p> <p>6 A. Well, let me put it this way: Depending on 7 how similar that choke is to a rear naked choke, 8 maybe I can't tell. But there are a lot of 9 different types of chokes and I could tell you it 10 wasn't X, Y and Z. So if I knew what that choke 11 was, I could tell you for sure it was not that 12 choke, possibly.</p> <p>13 Q. What chokes could you tell me that this was 14 not?</p> <p>15 A. Cross-collar choke, a baseball bat choke, a 16 guillotine. Any of these. A D'Arce and Anaconda, a 17 loop choke.</p> <p>18 Q. How is it that you're certain the choke 19 that was employed was not any of those chokes?</p> <p>20 A. Because this choke involved Officer Lopera 21 on his back with his arm wrapped around him near his 22 throat, and I believe his other arm was behind him 23 holding his hand. So none of those chokes are close 24 to that.</p> <p>25 Q. And how would you see Officer Lopera's arms</p>	<p>Page 46</p> <p>1 A. Yeah, and then we looked for parking. 2 Tried to calm her down. 3 Q. Was that the end -- when you turned into 4 the parking lot, was that the end of the observation 5 of these events?</p> <p>6 A. Until an hour or so later, when I came 7 back, there was still an ambulance. Or maybe it 8 wasn't an ambulance. There was still remnants, 9 either medical or police.</p> <p>10 Q. Let me ask a better question. 11 The last time you saw Mr. Farmer or 12 Mr. Lopera was when you turned, I think you said 13 right, into self-parking?</p> <p>14 A. That is correct.</p> <p>15 Q. Isn't it true that you locked your doors on 16 your truck when the events started?</p> <p>17 A. Correct.</p> <p>18 Q. Isn't it true you did that out of fear?</p> <p>19 A. Yes. Mr. Farmer was acting very 20 erratically. And I lock my doors at the stoplights. 21 So I definitely wasn't going to take any chances 22 that time.</p> <p>23 Q. When you say he was acting erratically, 24 what do you mean? Please explain that.</p> <p>25 A. He was running from an officer yelling</p>
<p>1 if his back was to you?</p> <p>2 A. His back was not to me. They were on their 3 side. And I believe their heads were towards me.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. There were other officers -- well, 5 did you see other officers other than Officer Lopera 6 come to the scene?</p> <p>7 A. At the end, yes.</p> <p>8 Q. And were they actively participating in the 9 arrest?</p> <p>10 A. They were. They were, yes, what I believe 11 participating actively around him and attempting to 12 to gain control of Mr. Farmer.</p> <p>13 Q. And they were literally right there at 14 Mr. Farmer?</p> <p>15 A. Yes. They were involved.</p> <p>16 Q. Who would have a better view of the choke 17 being employed, you or those officers right there on 18 the scene?</p> <p>19 A. Those officers.</p> <p>20 Q. Where did you -- so you were -- you pulled 21 straight, away, once it was clear to do so. Where 22 did you go at that point?</p> <p>23 A. We went straight and then turned right into 24 the parking garage.</p> <p>25 Q. And then once you -- and then you parked?</p>	<p>Page 47</p> <p>1 "Stop, I'm going to tase you," and he was not 2 stopping, and was running. So that's what I mean by 3 erratic.</p> <p>4 Q. On the bottom of your voluntary statement, 5 which we've marked Exhibit 2, in the bottom 6 right-hand corner, it's page 1696.</p> <p>7 A. 96.</p> <p>8 Q. Second-to-the-last line, it says: 9 "I don't know if he was trying to get in or 10 what he was -- if he was just running but, um, I 11 locked my door out of I guess fear of the guy trying 12 to come in because of all the excitement."</p> <p>13 Do you see that?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. And do you recall that you were scared at 16 that point about the events?</p> <p>17 A. Yeah. There was a lot of commotion.</p> <p>18 Q. So, on the bottom of page 1697, the last 19 line says: Back up one.</p> <p>20 "And I think I remember three officers 21 above the man and then one officer on the ground 22 with him."</p> <p>23 Those three officers above the man, those 24 are the ones we just talked about that you saw come 25 to assist Officer Lopera with the arrest; correct?</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 A. Correct. It would depend where we are on 2 the statement. Because initially I believe there 3 was hotel employees involved. 4 Q. So why don't you take a minute, let's look 5 at this statement and you tell me whether "I think 6 three officers above the man and one officer on the 7 ground," are those police officers. Or are those 8 hotel security? 9 A. Okay. Give me one moment, please. 10 Okay. At that point, the sentence you 11 pointed out, those were officers, yes. I assume Las 12 Vegas P.D. I wouldn't be able to tell the 13 difference. 14 Q. But the distinction is they are police 15 officers, not hotel security? 16 A. Yes. They had the cars, squad cars. 17 Q. And then this sentence goes on. The next 18 sentence: 19 "And I've been doing jiu-jitsu, like, five 20 days a week for about two years now and it 21 definitely looks like what we call a rear naked 22 choke which, um, if you have it -- so if you have 23 it -- if you have a choke applied properly and 24 you're underneath the chin, it takes about from my 25 experience about two seconds to" -- and you go on.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 then have to start all over again? 2 MR. SAYRE: Incomplete hypothetical. 3 Vague and ambiguous. And objection as to form. 4 BY MR. MCNUTT: 5 Q. Do you understand the question? 6 A. I understand the question. And there's a 7 lot of variables with that. So yes and no. You're 8 probably not going to have to start all over again. 9 Q. Why not? 10 A. There is a lot of variables. Depends on 11 how they've gotten out of, maybe, the application of 12 that. Maybe they've taken your arm off only an inch 13 or two and then they slip off your arm. Your arm is 14 already right in the place. 15 Q. You mentioned, in response to Mr. Sayre's 16 questioning, how long did you think the choke was in 17 place. Let me ask -- strike that. 18 How long did Officer Lopera have his arms 19 around Mr. Farmer's neck? 20 A. An estimation would be anywhere from 30 to 21 45 seconds. 22 Q. And was that the total time that you were 23 able to observe it? 24 A. Correct. I did drive, I turned right, was 25 not able to see anymore, and I believe it was still</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 And you said, today, it takes approximately 2 five to ten seconds, in your experience, to choke 3 someone out with a rear naked choke? 4 A. Correct. 5 Q. What if it's not properly applied, how long 6 would it take? 7 A. So, if it's not properly applied, it 8 depends on how it's not properly applied, but it can 9 go anywhere to you cannot choke someone out, to a 10 lot longer, depending on how it's not properly 11 applied. 12 Q. If somebody is actively resisting, could it 13 take longer to get the choke? 14 A. Not if it's properly applied. 15 Q. So if the choke's properly applied, but 16 what I'm saying is if someone is resisting, can that 17 cause a delay in getting the proper application of 18 the choke? 19 A. Yes. 20 Q. If you lose the proper application of the 21 choke, do you, in effect, have to start all over 22 again? 23 So, for example, if you were choking 24 someone with that and they worked free, got more 25 air, got more blood flow, what have you, would you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 applied. 2 Q. Do you know how much pressure, if any, 3 Officer Lopera was applying to Mr. Farmer's neck? 4 A. I would have no way to know that. 5 Q. So it's possible he could have had his arms 6 around Mr. Farmer's neck and not have applied any 7 compression; isn't that true? 8 MR. SAYRE: Objection. Speculation. 9 THE WITNESS: From my vantage point, 10 yes, I would have no way to know. 11 BY MR. MCNUTT: 12 Q. So he could have had a lot of pressure or 13 he could have had no pressure; right? 14 A. For as far as I know, yes. 15 Q. There has been testimony in this case by 16 the use-of-force expert from Las Vegas Metropolitan 17 Police Department, named Sergeant Bland. Do you 18 know him, by any chance? 19 A. Never -- never heard of him. 20 Q. He is a third degree Brazilian jiu-jitsu 21 black belt. Is that -- is he better at jiu-jitsu 22 than you? 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. Does he know more than you? 25 A. I would imagine so.</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p> <p>1 Q. Would you defer to his opinion as to what 2 choke was or was not applied?</p> <p>3 A. Based on third degree black belt, I would. 4 Of course, I'd have to meet him and talk with him.</p> <p>5 Q. If he said there was no way to tell how 6 much compression was applied, would you agree with 7 that?</p> <p>8 A. Again, based on the description you've 9 given me, yes. But I do not know him.</p> <p>10 Q. Look at the bottom of page 1702, please, of 11 Exhibit 2. This is your statement. And see your 12 initials there at the bottom, JP. That's you?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. "I remember the man not staying, you know, 15 he -- at no point did it seem like he was staying 16 down. He always seemed to be trying to get away."</p> <p>17 Do you see that?</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Do you remember that to be the case?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. And so this is what you were discussing 22 when we earlier talked about Mr. Farmer was actively 23 resisting arrest?</p> <p>24 A. He was, yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Anything else you remember about Mr. Farmer</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p> <p>1 was switching back from driving forward, as well as 2 to Joann, your girlfriend, who was on your right, 3 and to the rearview mirrors, so you didn't see all 4 the action?</p> <p>5 MR. SAYRE: Objection. Compound. 6 Complex. Speculation.</p> <p>7 BY MR. MCNUTT:</p> <p>8 Q. Do you understand the question?</p> <p>9 A. I understand the question. Correct.</p> <p>10 Q. Over on 1706, the first spot where you see 11 your initials: 12 "But again, uh, the -- I have a feeling, 13 like, the whole time this was guy was trying to get 14 away --"</p> <p>15 Questioner: "Okay."</p> <p>16 " -- and never really settled down."</p> <p>17 Does that refresh your recollection about 18 any other active resistance that Mr. Farmer was 19 employing?</p> <p>20 A. No, not that we haven't already discussed.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. Let's go to 1707. So, about 22 two-thirds of the way down the page -- let's see.</p> <p>23 "BP: Okay, so with your experience in 24 jiu-jitsu, you know different fighting techniques. 25 You can identify what would be, you know, a rear</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p> <p>1 actively resisting?</p> <p>2 A. No. He was actively resisting arrest, and 3 at no point did I feel like he was complying.</p> <p>4 Q. On page 1705, do you see your initials? 5 The first time you see your initials, JP. So, the 6 question is -- we'll back up to where the question. 7 "You were still watching in your mirror and 8 you saw the officer standing, like, above the 9 subject who -- he was on the ground. And you said 10 you saw the officer start to -- to -- to punch him."</p> <p>11 So, and your answer is:</p> <p>12 "So almost, yeah, we -- as we were driving 13 away I'm switching between them and trying to, um, 14 communicate with my friend. But I look back and the 15 officer was punching him. He wasn't standing. He 16 was mounted on top of him."</p> <p>17 And you've already explained what "mounted" 18 means; right?</p> <p>19 A. Correct.</p> <p>20 Q. Did you ever see Mr. Farmer striking back 21 at the officer?</p> <p>22 A. No, at no point did I see Mr. Farmer 23 attempting to hurt Officer Lopera.</p> <p>24 Q. But it's true that you weren't watching the 25 whole time, because, based upon this, your attention</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p> <p>1 naked choke, the effects of it, how long it would 2 take, and, you know, the adverse effects of it."</p> <p>3 Right? Do you see that?</p> <p>4 A. Yeah, I see that.</p> <p>5 Q. Did, at any point, any of the officers that 6 questioned you ask you about the questions I asked 7 you about whether you understood what a lateral 8 vascular neck restraint was?</p> <p>9 A. No, I don't believe so.</p> <p>10 Q. Your response is:</p> <p>11 "Yeah, but now from the angle -- from the 12 distance I was at at this point I couldn't -- I felt 13 like his elbow was under the chin which is how you 14 apply that."</p> <p>15 Do you see that?</p> <p>16 A. I see.</p> <p>17 Q. Do you know if you do that, if you have the 18 elbow under the chin for a lateral vascular neck 19 restraint as well?</p> <p>20 A. I don't know what that choke is.</p> <p>21 Q. "I felt like it" -- this is back to quoting 22 you.</p> <p>23 "I felt like it was but at that distance in 24 the mirror, you know, I can't be positive."</p> <p>25 Do you see that?</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. So, you, then and now, you acknowledge that</p> <p>3 from the distance you were at driving away looking</p> <p>4 into a side mirror from a Toyota Tacoma, that it's</p> <p>5 impossible to tell exactly what kind of choke was on</p> <p>6 Mr. Farmer. Is that right?</p> <p>7 A. Correct.</p> <p>8 Q. It's also impossible to tell how much, if</p> <p>9 any, compression Officer Lopera was employing in the</p> <p>10 choke?</p> <p>11 A. Correct.</p> <p>12 Q. Did you ever make it to the piano club?</p> <p>13 A. No. They were closed when we got there.</p> <p>14 Q. What did you end up doing?</p> <p>15 A. We ended up walking around a little bit</p> <p>16 more and then going back home.</p> <p>17 Q. Can you describe to me, in your statement</p> <p>18 you had talked about you were pulling into, I think,</p> <p>19 Venetian parking, and you discussed it being a</p> <p>20 security checkpoint. Do you remember that?</p> <p>21 A. Yeah. It was either a valet checkpoint --</p> <p>22 I don't know if it was a security checkpoint. I</p> <p>23 believe there was a stoplight and maybe a valet</p> <p>24 checkpoint.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. Can you describe what that looked</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 A. No, not familiar.</p> <p>2 Q. What did the concrete barriers look like?</p> <p>3 A. They would have been the concrete barriers</p> <p>4 you typically see with road construction, where</p> <p>5 they're wider at the base and then just have maybe</p> <p>6 like an angle going up and thin out.</p> <p>7 Q. And the purpose of the concrete barrier was</p> <p>8 to keep, I guess, your lanes from going over into</p> <p>9 the other street. Is that correct?</p> <p>10 A. Yeah. I believe they're to separate the</p> <p>11 Venetian traffic, in that kind of porte cochere</p> <p>12 area, from the street.</p> <p>13 MR. MCNUTT: Craig, I'm going -- you</p> <p>14 want to take a minute?</p> <p>15 I'm going to fire up the video, and I would</p> <p>16 like to show you the video and ask you just a few</p> <p>17 more questions. Why don't we go off the record.</p> <p>18 And if you want to use the restroom or grab a drink.</p> <p>19 (There was a break taken at 3:06 p.m.</p> <p>20 until 3:10 p.m.)</p> <p>21 BY MR. MCNUTT:</p> <p>22 Q. We're back on the record.</p> <p>23 Mr. Pierce, what I'm going to do is I'm</p> <p>24 going to start the video that you've seen. This is</p> <p>25 going to have a merge. It's called a merged video.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 like?</p> <p>2 A. Yeah. So, I believe I was pulling in. I</p> <p>3 think I was the third car in line, maybe. There was</p> <p>4 a stop sign to the left, and maybe a bellman valet</p> <p>5 booth to the right. Other than that, there's just a</p> <p>6 lot of lanes and, maybe, cars.</p> <p>7 Q. Were there any speed bumps?</p> <p>8 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>9 Q. Were there any concrete barriers to keep</p> <p>10 you from going the right way?</p> <p>11 A. I believe there is a concrete barrier to</p> <p>12 the left.</p> <p>13 Q. There's concrete barriers to your left?</p> <p>14 A. To my left.</p> <p>15 Q. As you're driving?</p> <p>16 A. I believe.</p> <p>17 Q. So if you were going west, it would have</p> <p>18 been on your left side, to the south?</p> <p>19 A. I'm not sure which direction is west in</p> <p>20 this situation. There's a building to my right, and</p> <p>21 I believe a street to my left. So that is where the</p> <p>22 concrete barriers would have been, if they were</p> <p>23 there.</p> <p>24 Q. Have you ever heard the phrase, a "Jersey</p> <p>25 barrier"?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p>1 That's been produced in this case. So you're going</p> <p>2 to see different viewpoints on the screen. It will</p> <p>3 become readily apparent what I want you to do.</p> <p>4 I want you to -- ultimately, you're going</p> <p>5 to see from the Venetian's security camera looking</p> <p>6 back towards the front of your truck. And it takes</p> <p>7 maybe a few seconds for the truck to start moving,</p> <p>8 then we can identify it's your truck and I'll just</p> <p>9 ask you to identify it's your truck and verify that</p> <p>10 we're all looking at the same thing.</p> <p>11 A. Okay.</p> <p>12 (Whereupon, Mr. McNutt played a</p> <p>13 video on his computer.)</p> <p>14 BY MR. MCNUTT:</p> <p>15 Q. Is that your truck?</p> <p>16 A. Yes. And that is how you can tell.</p> <p>17 There's a sticker that's still on the truck. Very</p> <p>18 distinctive.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. So, I fast-forwarded it just a</p> <p>20 little bit. And now you see on the left-hand side</p> <p>21 of the screen, we at least see vehicles with lights</p> <p>22 coming towards us. What I want you to do is</p> <p>23 identify if and when you can identify your truck.</p> <p>24 That's a white car coming towards us.</p> <p>25 That's not you; correct?</p>

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	Page 62		Page 64
1	A. That's correct.	1	point? Can you tell?
2	Q. So let me ask you, do you recognize, is	2	A. No.
3	this the podium that you were talking about that you	3	Q. Can you see Officer Lopera in this video?
4	referenced as a bell podium or as a --	4	A. No.
5	A. This one?	5	Q. Do you -- is the gentleman on the left with
6	Q. Yes.	6	the white shirt on, do you understand him to be Las
7	A. No.	7	Vegas Metro or who he is? Hotel security?
8	That's -- I can -- that's most likely my	8	A. I wouldn't know who that individual is.
9	truck.	9	Q. Can you identify any of those folks that
10	Now you can tell for sure, because of the	10	we're looking at right now?
11	front license plate.	11	A. From this angle, no.
12	Q. Okay. So you're in the right-hand lane.	12	Q. So, I want you to continue to watch the
13	There's two lanes. And we see the officer -- well,	13	action, and I want you to tell me if at any point
14	we see people behind. Do you believe that to be Ken	14	you can see Officer Lopera, or an officer attempt to
15	Lopera -- excuse me -- Officer Lopera and	15	put a chokehold on.
16	Mr. Farmer?	16	A. Okay.
17	A. Yes.	17	Q. And at this point, I'll note it looks like
18	Q. Do you see that, there, at the end of the	18	your truck is now past that podium that was right by
19	what I call the Jersey barriers, is this the	19	the speed bump. Right?
20	concrete barriers that you were discussing earlier?	20	A. I agree.
21	A. Yes.	21	Q. Any idea how far that is, you're looking in
22	Q. Do you see on the lines behind your truck	22	your rearview mirror?
23	those reflector that are often in the street, kind	23	A. No.
24	of speed bumps, reflector bumps?	24	Q. So, again, you tell me when you think you
25	A. Uh-huh.	25	see any sort of chokehold.
	Page 63		Page 65
1	Q. Will you agree with me that at this point,	1	A. Right there. Not in, but this is -- that
2	as you're pulling away, Officer Lopera and	2	right there was at the classic beginnings to a rear
3	Mr. Farmer are at what would be, if you are	3	naked -- to a chokehold.
4	traveling west -- and I know we haven't established	4	Q. So at this time your truck is completely
5	definitively that you're traveling west -- that they	5	past the standing podium?
6	are at the east end of the concrete barriers?	6	A. Yes.
7	A. Yes, it would appear so, from this footage.	7	Q. And we don't know if that's a security
8	Q. Okay. So at this point your truck is	8	podium or a valet podium? I think you said a bell
9	almost parallel to this little podium, and there's a	9	podium?
10	speed bump. Did you see the speed bump that it was	10	A. Yeah. But that's not what I believed to be
11	about go to over?	11	a bell podium. That would have been on this side.
12	A. Yeah, in the footage earlier.	12	Q. Okay.
13	Q. Do you know -- at this point, can you tell	13	MR. SAYRE: Before you move. Is there
14	from the video what Officer Lopera and Mr. Farmer	14	any way for you to identify, by number, where that
15	are doing? Do you know if they're -- if he's going	15	is?
16	hands-on, if he's still tasing?	16	MR. MCNUTT: Yeah, I'm going to -- I
17	A. From this point in the video, no.	17	think we're going to -- let me finish the line of
18	Q. Do you know how far away the distance is	18	questions, because that is a technical piece that
19	between your truck and the east end of those	19	we're going to have to come back to. But yeah, I
20	concrete barriers?	20	should be able to. When I rehearsed this, I found a
21	A. No.	21	timestamp.
22	Q. Tell me when you think you see Officer	22	BY MR. MCNUTT:
23	Lopera put a chokehold on.	23	Q. So let's get back to that spot.
24	Okay. I'm going to stop it right here.	24	So, right here is when -- what do you see
25	Is there a chokehold on Mr. Farmer at this	25	happening there?

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 66</p> <p>1 A. I see another person on the back, so I 2 would assume -- I see an officer on the back, I 3 assume to be Mr. Farmer, and they've just pulled him 4 to the ground, in a classic rear naked choke 5 position.</p> <p>6 Q. As you understand it?</p> <p>7 A. As I understand a rear naked choke.</p> <p>8 Q. Now, is your truck anywhere in this screen 9 at this point?</p> <p>10 A. No.</p> <p>11 Q. From your recollection, where would your 12 truck be -- you continued to drive straight and out 13 of view of this camera; correct?</p> <p>14 A. Out of view of that camera, yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. Tell me when the last thing you 16 remember seeing is. Do you remember seeing --</p> <p>17 So we've got two vehicles, one just went 18 behind you. Did that impede your view at some 19 point?</p> <p>20 A. I don't remember a vehicle impeding my 21 view. But from this security footage, which I don't 22 believe I've ever seen this, I would not be able to 23 tell you when my truck left. Looking at this 24 footage, I would not know when I pulled away.</p> <p>25 Q. I'm sorry. What do you mean, when you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 68</p> <p>1 Q. Any chokehold now? You're past the speed 2 bump. How far are you past the speed bump?</p> <p>3 A. It looks like both sets of tires have 4 cleared the speed bump.</p> <p>5 Q. How long is your truck?</p> <p>6 A. I don't know.</p> <p>7 Q. 15, 20 feet?</p> <p>8 A. I wouldn't say 20. But, yeah. I don't 9 know.</p> <p>10 Q. So you're at least 20 feet past the podium, 11 and there's no chokehold; right?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Your truck is now completely out of view. 14 There's still no chokehold; correct?</p> <p>15 A. I would say correct, yeah.</p> <p>16 Q. And, now.</p> <p>17 A. Yeah.</p> <p>18 Q. Right. And we'll get the time hack for 19 what part of the video that is.</p> <p>20 A. Yeah.</p> <p>21 Q. So, from this, do you think it's safe to 22 say, based on my representation of that measurement, 23 that you're at least beyond 31 yards, the first time 24 you see any sort of choke maneuver go?</p> <p>25 A. If 31 yards is the distance from here to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 67</p> <p>1 pulled away? We saw your truck.</p> <p>2 A. When I went out of view.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. Gotcha.</p> <p>4 A. On the night of.</p> <p>5 Q. So if we -- is it fair to say that we would 6 know how far you were away because we could measure 7 from where the officers are at the east end of the 8 concrete barriers and measure up to where this 9 podium is? Correct?</p> <p>10 A. Yeah, I would hope so.</p> <p>11 Q. So that's 93 feet.</p> <p>12 A. Okay.</p> <p>13 Q. That's 31 yards. So that's where your 14 truck was at the first point.</p> <p>15 So let's back it up.</p> <p>16 So here's your truck before, and there's no 17 chokehold. This is before this speed bump. See 18 that? Before this little podium. See that?</p> <p>19 A. (Nods head.)</p> <p>20 Q. Now. No chokehold. No chokehold. Watch 21 your truck. Tell me when you go over the speed 22 bump.</p> <p>23 A. There it was.</p> <p>24 Q. So, any chokehold?</p> <p>25 A. No.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 69</p> <p>1 here, then yes.</p> <p>2 Q. It's a long way?</p> <p>3 A. Yeah. Yeah, relative.</p> <p>4 Q. Right. Long away to view things in your 5 rearview mirror; right?</p> <p>6 A. Yes, I could tell a choking going on, but 7 yes.</p> <p>8 Q. But you don't know what kind of choke; 9 correct?</p> <p>10 A. Correct.</p> <p>11 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>12 So, Fred, I figured out the time hack. So 13 let me get it there and so that we can get the 14 appropriate timestamp.</p> <p>15 So tell me when your rear tires are over 16 the speed bump.</p> <p>17 A. That was -- is that the rear? Yeah. I 18 didn't see the front go.</p> <p>19 Q. So, 1 minute 13 seconds on the merged 20 video, Mr. Pierce's rear tires cross the speed bump 21 passing the security podium. And is there any choke 22 being applied at this point?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. Your truck continues to drive west. At 1 25 minute 19 seconds, your truck is completely out of</p>

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1 view, having driven further west, past the security 2 podium; right? 3 A. Correct. 4 Q. Is there any -- any choke at all being 5 applied at this point? 6 A. No. 7 Q. Tell me now when you first see the choke. 8 A. There. 9 Q. So the first that he sees the choke on the 10 video is 1 minute 23 seconds. 11 And how many vehicles are coming behind you 12 at this point? 13 A. At this point, there's three, if you count 14 the one off in the distance, the one with the 15 headlight. 16 Q. So three vehicles coming behind you with 17 their lights on; correct? 18 A. Correct. 19 Q. Do you remember their lights shining in 20 your mirror at all? 21 A. Maybe one set. Not three. But that would 22 be a complete guess. 23 MR. MCNUTT: I have no further 24 questions at this time. 25 MR. SAYRE: He's going to ask you some	1 chokehold when you saw the other officers? 2 A. He had not begun the chokehold, I believe. 3 Q. Now, when you saw the other officers -- and 4 Mr. McNutt just went through your distances -- how 5 far away were you from the action that was going on? 6 A. Well, according to Mr. McNutt, over 92 7 feet. 8 Q. Okay. And did you -- what was your 9 perception as to what the other three officers were 10 doing? 11 A. They appeared to be trying to restrain 12 Mr. Farmer. 13 Q. Were they hands-on with Mr. Farmer? Were 14 they touching him? 15 A. Yeah, they appeared to be, yes. 16 Q. Okay. Where were they located with respect 17 to his body? Were they scattered around his body in 18 the same location? 19 A. They were clustered around him. 20 Q. And they appeared to be doing what? 21 A. Trying to restrain him. Some of them were 22 completely standing with their hands involved, other 23 ones seem to be applying some knees. Not -- not 24 striking, but pushing down with pressure. 25 Q. Okay. So, but they were all hands-on with
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1 questions now. And I just have a few more. 2 MR. ANDERSON: Are you guys ready for 3 me? 4 MR. SAYRE: Yeah. 5 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. Can you hear me 6 okay? 7 MR. SAYRE: Yes. 8 9 EXAMINATION 10 BY MR. ANDERSON: 11 Q. Mr. Pierce, I just want to draw your 12 attention to the three officers that you saw later, 13 not Officer Lopera. Do you understand that? 14 A. Correct. Yes, I do. 15 Q. Okay. When did you become aware of their 16 arrival? When did you see other officers? 17 A. If I understand your question, when during 18 the events did I notice they were there? 19 Q. Yeah. When did you see other police 20 officers, not Officer Lopera? 21 A. After I had started to drive away from 22 initially being stopped next to the -- next to 23 Officer Lopera and Mr. Farmer. 24 Q. Okay. Had Officer Lopera begun to use a 25 chokehold yet, or had he still not begun the	1 Mr. Farmer; is that fair? 2 A. Definitely, majority of them, yes. 3 Q. And did it appear that they were trying to 4 handcuff him? 5 A. I wouldn't be able to tell if they were 6 trying to handcuff him, you know. Because officers 7 were involved and a man is struggling, I assume that 8 they were trying to restrain him. 9 Q. Did you see any of the three officers kick 10 or punch Mr. Farmer? 11 A. Other than the initial strikes, which might 12 have been prior -- other than the initial strikes 13 that I believed were Mr. Lopera, no. 14 Q. Okay. Were you close enough and able to 15 hear any commands or statements made by the other 16 three officers? 17 A. By the other three, I do not remember 18 hearing commands or statements from them. 19 Q. Okay. Before you lost vision on the 20 activity, what's the last thing you remember seeing 21 with respect to the officers? 22 A. I remember seeing those officers clustered 23 around and Mr. Farmer on the ground being choked, or 24 trying to be choked, I guess. 25 Q. Were any of those officers near

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1 Mr. Farmer's head area? 2 A. I'm not sure. They were clustered around, 3 and moving. 4 Q. Did it appear to you that Mr. Farmer was 5 still resisting? 6 A. At that point, I believe so. 7 Q. So you believe it appeared to you that he 8 might still be resisting? 9 A. At that point, yes. I did not know that 10 Mr. Farmer died until I was contacted by Officer 11 Penny, I believe. 12 Q. Did you ever see -- was there ever a time 13 when you believed that Mr. Farmer was unconscious? 14 A. No. I remember thinking he would go 15 unconscious, but I don't know -- 16 Q. The entire time that you had a visual, he 17 appeared to be resisting? 18 A. I thought he was, yes. 19 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. I have no 20 further questions. 21 MR. SAYRE: Okay. I have a few. 22 23 FURTHER EXAMINATION 24 BY MR. SAYRE: 25 Q. Would you take a look at the arrest report,	Page 74	1 A. Security not being the police officers? 2 Q. Right. 3 A. I remember security guards, or someone, 4 hotel staff, involved, and it looked like maybe one 5 was involved in the action. If he was grabbing his 6 arms, I'm not sure. 7 Q. Next page. 2:47: "Officer Lopera told 8 Farmer, 'Get on your stomach.' Farmer was observed 9 lying on his stomach." 10 Did you see that? 11 A. I do not remember observing Mr. Farmer on 12 his stomach. 13 Q. 2:50: "Officer Lopera told Farmer, 'Get on 14 your stomach.' Farmer was observed lying on his 15 stomach." 16 Now, you didn't see that, but you heard 17 Lopera telling him to get on his stomach; right? 18 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form. 19 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure I heard 20 Officer Lopera saying that. 21 MR. SAYRE: Okay. Could we use the 22 tape? 23 BY MR. SAYRE: 24 Q. I want you to listen to the tape and see if 25 you hear Officer Lopera telling Mr. Farmer to "Get	Page 76
1 please. 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. Take a look at page 4 of 8, down at the 4 bottom right-hand corner. 5 A. Thank you. 4 of 8. 6 Q. Right. Now, take a look at 2:40. 2 7 minutes and 40 seconds. Do you see that? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. "Officer Lopera told Farmer, 'Get on your 10 stomach.' Farmer was observed lying on his 11 stomach." 12 This is what one of the investigator 13 officers wrote down after he looked at the film. 14 Did you see that occur; that is, Farmer 15 lying on his stomach? 16 A. I don't remember that. 17 Q. 2:42, which is two seconds later: 18 "Officer Lopera told Farmer, "Get on your 19 stomach. Farmer was observed lying on his stomach 20 again." Or still. 21 Do you see that? 22 A. Yeah, I see that. 23 Q. 2:45: "Security was observed grabbing 24 Farmer's arms." 25 Did you see security grabbing his arms?	Page 75	1 on your stomach." 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. And a little while later, I want you to 4 hear whether or not one of the officers says, "Put 5 your fucking hands behind your back," very loudly. 6 A. Yes. 7 MR. SAYRE: You're waiting for it to 8 warm up? 9 MR. MCNUTT: It's a converted. I've 10 had problems with it because it's a conversion on 11 Apple. And it's not reading. 12 BY MR. SAYRE: 13 Q. While we're waiting, let me ask you some 14 questions. 15 Assuming for a moment that Officer Lopera 16 told Mr. Farmer, several times, "Get on your 17 stomach," okay? From 2:40, 2 minutes and 40 18 seconds, until 2 minutes and 52 seconds, is a period 19 of 12 seconds. The observations of the 20 investigating officer are that Mr. Farmer was on his 21 stomach for those 12 seconds. Would you agree that 22 that would indicate that he was complying with 23 Officer Lopera commanding to "Get on your stomach"?	Page 77

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1 the video that Mr. McNutt showed earlier, I remember 2 you can clearly hear Mr. Farmer saying "I will," in 3 response to something Mr. Officer Lopera was saying. 4 BY MR. SAYRE: 5 Q. Now, let me ask you to assume that you can 6 hear on the tape -- well, actually, I can do it on 7 my iPhone. 8 A. Am I allowed to look at this? 9 Q. Sure. 10 A. Because 9:34, does not look good, from 11 Officer Lopera. 12 Q. This is a briefing by Undersheriff Kevin 13 McMahill -- 14 (Whereupon, Mr. Sayre played a video 15 on his iPhone.) 16 BY MR. SAYRE: 17 Q. Well, we didn't get to it. But let me ask 18 you this. Since Counsel isn't able to, apparently, 19 able to get his machine working now, unfortunately. 20 You'll be able to look at -- 21 (Whereupon, video resumed playing on 22 iPhone.) 23 BY MR. SAYRE: 24 Q. You heard that statement. All right. Take 25 a look at the -- if you'll look at, and you'll see	1 A. Correct. 2 Q. And you could see that clearly? 3 A. Correct. 4 Q. Were all of them within such a close 5 proximity to Officer Lopera that they could have 6 reached over and pulled his hands away from 7 Mr. Farmer's throat? 8 A. Yes. 9 MR. ANDERSON: Objection. Form. 10 BY MR. SAYRE: 11 Q. Now, I'll just tell you that the rear naked 12 chokehold is prohibited by the Las Vegas 13 Metropolitan Police Department. 14 And I'll tell you, further, that each of 15 these officers had an independent duty to intervene 16 if a rear naked choke was being applied. 17 During the time from the time that you 18 could see the hold applied until it went out of the 19 distance, did you ever see any of those three 20 officers reach over and pull Officer Lopera's hands 21 away from Mr. Farmer's neck? 22 A. No. 23 Q. Now, you said, on page 1707 -- I'm back to 24 your interview. Mr. McNutt left off this portion of 25 your answer.
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1 at the 2:58, Officer Lopera appeared to put Farmer 2 in some type of a neck restraint. 3 This is from the observations of the 4 investigating officers. 5 Before that, for about 12 seconds, from 6 2:40 to 2:52, Officer Lopera is telling Farmer, "Get 7 on your stomach." And, each time, the investigating 8 officer says, "Farmer was observed lying on his 9 stomach." He was still getting tased. 10 Then, at 2:58: "Officer Lopera appeared to 11 put Farmer in some type of a neck restraint." 12 Three seconds later: "Sergeant Crumrine 13 arrives and stated, "Put your fucking hands behind 14 your back." 15 He was the superior to Officer Lopera at 16 the scene. 17 So, from that point on you saw Lopera 18 putting on a neck restraint, for the time that you 19 could see it? 20 A. Correct. 21 Q. -- until -- all right. 22 Now, during that time, there were three 23 officers, including Sergeant Crumrine, that were 24 clustered about Mr. Farmer, by your observation; 25 right?	1 "Um, if that was the case" -- 2 And this is down at the bottom, next to the 3 last answer. 4 "I know I -- I remember thinking that night 5 this is -- this is -- that is too -- this is too 6 long. You can't choke someone that long." 7 That was your observation; right? 8 A. Correct. 9 Q. Now, if you notice, at 3:25, it says 10 Officer Tran -- actually, it turns out that was 11 Officer Crumrine. It says: 12 "Officer Tran arrived and said, 'Let him go 13 Ken.'" 14 Do you see that? 15 A. I see that. 16 Q. And, "Officer Lopera asked, 'Are you sure?'" 17 Officer Tran replied, "Yeah." 18 And from that point, at 3 minutes and 26 19 seconds, that hold was left on, until 4 minutes and 20 11 seconds. 21 A. I see that. 22 Q. From your experience, a rear naked choke, 23 if it was a rear naked choke as described by Officer 24 Lopera, a rear naked choke should have put him 25 unconscious during that period of time?

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1 A. Yes. 2 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form. 3 BY MR. SAYRE: 4 Q. In fact, if a rear naked choke is kept on 5 too long, it can kill somebody? 6 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form. 7 THE WITNESS: Yes. 8 BY MR. SAYRE: 9 Q. Do you know that Officer Lopera was 10 recommended by the police department to be charged 11 with manslaughter? 12 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form. 13 BY MR. SAYRE: 14 Q. Did you know that? 15 A. I was not aware of that. I figured it was 16 serious. 17 Q. And Officer Lopera is currently being 18 charged with manslaughter. 19 A. Okay. 20 Q. Did you know that Officer Lopera told 21 approximately seven different times to various 22 officers that he had rear naked choked Mr. Farmer? 23 MR. MCNUTT: Objection. Form. 24 THE WITNESS: Until I read Exhibit 1, 25 I was not aware of that.	Page 82	1 finish reviewing it, and made any corrections or 2 not, sign it under penalty of perjury, put it into 3 the envelope that she'll supply, which will be 4 already stamped and already to go, and just put it 5 in the mail. 6 THE WITNESS: Okay. 7 MR. SAYRE: And, if not signed, 8 corrections provided, a certified copy may be used 9 as if it were the original for all purposes. I will 10 maintain the original until the time of trial and 11 will produce it at the time of trial. 12 Is that okay? 13 MR. MCNUTT: It's the same stipulation 14 you and Craig already entered into, so I presumed 15 you were talking to Craig again. 16 MR. SAYRE: Craig, is that all right 17 with you? 18 MR. ANDERSON: Fine with me. 19 (Deposition concluded at 3:50 p.m.) 20 21 22 23 24 25	Page 84
1 BY MR. SAYRE: 2 Q. Now you've seen that in print? 3 A. Yes, I've seen that. "Rear nakeded his 4 ass." 5 Q. That's what he said. 6 I have nothing further. 7 MR. MCNUTT: Craig? 8 MR. ANDERSON: I have nothing further. 9 MR. MCNUTT: Thank you for your time. 10 MR. SAYRE: Thank you, sir. 11 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 12 (Discussion off the record.) 13 MR. ANDERSON: This is Craig. I'll 14 take a copy. I want to order a copy. 15 MR. SAYRE: I'll offer to stipulate 16 that the court reporter be relieved of her statutory 17 obligation, which may not be true in Arizona, as far 18 as I know, but that the deposition will be prepared 19 and sent directly to Mr. Pierce. 20 If he'll kindly provide her with an 21 address. 22 She'll send it to you in about two weeks. 23 And at that time you will be given 30 days to read 24 and review it and, if you wish, make any changes or 25 corrections, if you want to. And then after you	Page 83	1 2 I have read the foregoing deposition 3 transcript and by signing hereafter, approve same. 4 Dated _____. 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 JONATHAN JODIE PIERCE 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	Page 85

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<p>1 STATE OF ARIZONA) 2 COUNTY OF COCONINO) 3 4 I, MICHELLE K. SEYMOUR, RPR, CSR, CCR, do 5 hereby certify that I am an Arizona Certified 6 Reporter, Certificate No. 50710; that previous to 7 the commencement of the examination, the witness was 8 duly sworn by me to testify to the truth. 9 I further certify that this deposition was 10 taken in shorthand by me at the time and place 11 herein set forth, and was thereafter reduced to 12 typewritten form, and that the foregoing 84 pages 13 constitutes a true and accurate transcript, all done 14 to the best of my skill and ability. 15 I further certify that I am not related to, 16 employed by, nor of counsel for any of the parties 17 herein, nor otherwise interested in the result of 18 the within action. 19 DATED at Flagstaff, Arizona, this 3rd day 20 of May, 2018.</p> <p>21 22 <i>Michelle K. Seymour</i> 23</p> <p>24 Michelle K. Seymour, RPR, CCR, CSR Arizona Certified Reporter Certificate No. 50710 25</p>	<p>Page 86</p> <p>Page 87</p>
	<p>1 Errata Sheet 2 3 NAME OF CASE: ESTATE OF TASHI S. FARMER vs LAS VEGAS METRO P.D. 4 DATE OF DEPOSITION: 04/26/2018 5 NAME OF WITNESS: Jonathan Jodie Pierce 6 Reason Codes: 7 1. To clarify the record. 8 2. To conform to the facts. 9 3. To correct transcription errors. 10 Page ____ Line ____ Reason ____ 11 From _____ to _____. 12 Page ____ Line ____ Reason ____ 13 From _____ to _____. 14 Page ____ Line ____ Reason ____ 15 From _____ to _____. 16 Page ____ Line ____ Reason ____ 17 From _____ to _____. 18 Page ____ Line ____ Reason ____ 19 From _____ to _____. 20 Page ____ Line ____ Reason ____ 21 From _____ to _____. 22 Page ____ Line ____ Reason ____ 23 From _____ to _____. 24 25 _____</p>